

## TAXONOMY OF THE GENUS THORACOCHIRUS (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE, OSORIINAE) FROM CHINA

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**Abstract** The genus *Thoracochirus* Bernhauer, 1903, is a successful rove beetle group and well adapted to habitats associated with leaf-litter layer and dead wood. Before our study, only two species, *Thoracochirus variolosus* Fauvel, 1895, and *T. formosae* Cameron, 1940, were recorded from Taiwan, China. In this paper, we describe three new species, *T. yingjiangensis* sp. nov., *T. protumidus* sp. nov. and *T. arcuatus* sp. nov., from Yunnan, China. *T. variolosus* is recorded from mainland China for the first time. A key to these four species is presented. All the specimens, including the types, are deposited in Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Science.

**Key words** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, *Thoracochirus*, new species.

The tribe Leptochirini (Staphylinidae, Osoriinae) is an interesting group with special body form and head morphology and is successfully adapted to live under the bark of dead wood. There are four genera in this tribe, namely *Leptochirus* Germar, *Borolinus* Bernhauer, *Priochirus* Sharp, and *Thoracochirus* Bernhauer, which are known to occur in tropical and sub-tropical regions. Amongst them, *Thoracochirus* can be readily distinguished from other genera by distinctly having rugous and setiferous surface. Before we started this study, only 21 species were discovered in this genus worldwide. The species of this genus are usually known as leaf-litter layer and/or under-bark dwellers and mainly distributed in tropical forests of South Asia. As the north part of Oriental Region, South China is zoogeographically important for this genus. However, since 1940s, no specific taxonomic study have been conducted for this genus. Before our study, only 2 species, *Thoracochirus variolosus* Fauvel, 1895, and *T. formosae* Cameron, 1940, were recorded from Taiwan. In this paper, three new species, *T. yingjiangensis* sp. nov., *T. protumidus* sp. nov. and *T. arcuatus* sp. nov. from Yunnan are described. One species, *T. variolosus*, is recorded from mainland China for the first time.

The following abbreviations are used in the text, HL: head length (from front of lateral lobe to hind margin); PL: pronotum length; EL: elytron length;

HW: head width; PW: pronotum width; EW: width of both elytra together. This study is based on the specimens in the collection of IOZ-CAS (Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences). All types are deposited in the same institute.

### *Thoracochirus* Bernhauer, 1903 New record to mainland China

*Thoracochirus* Bernhauer, 1903: 116, 155, 160; Bernhauer and Schubert, 1910: 18; Cameron, 1925: 6; Bernhauer, 1926: 254; Cameron, 1930: 118; Scheerpeltz, 1933: 1008; Shibata, 1973: 27; Hammond, 1984: 199; Herman, 2001: 142. Type species: *Leptochirus rugosus* Fauvel, fixed by subsequent designation by Blackwelder, 1952: 388.

This genus is readily distinguished from other genera of the Leptochirini by strongly transverse pronotum, distinctly corser and rugouser surface. Head less armed, at most with a pair of triangular lateral teeth, frontal impression broadly impressed, mandible externally sulcate throughout, maxillary papi 4-segmented, 3rd quadrate, 4th strongly elongate, about four times as long as 3rd, inner lobe of maxilla denticulate, mentum trapizeform, tridentate in front, pronotum strongly transverse, more or less denticulate, elytra rugous and densely setiferous, abdomen cylindrical.

### Key to species of *Thoracochirus* from mainland China

1. Lateral lobe of head without tooth ..... *T. variolosus* Fauvel  
Lateral lobe of head furnished frontally with a distinct tooth ..... 2
2. Frontal tooth auricular and broadly connected with lateral side of clypeus ..... *T. arcuatus* sp. nov.

This study was supported by The State Key Basic Research and Development Plan of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China (G200046800), National Science Fund for Fostering Talents in Basic Research (NFSC-J0030092) and KFBG (Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden) Biodiversity Studentship of Hongkong.

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Received 13 May 2005, accepted 10 June 2005.

Frontal tooth triangular, not connected with lateral side of clypeus

- .....3  
 3. Median sulcus of head deep and wide, longer than the longitudinal length of eyes; lateral region of pronotum scattered with distinct long verrucous denticles ..... *T. yingjiangensis* sp. nov.  
 Median sulcus of head indistinct, shorter than the longitudinal length of eyes; lateral region of pronotum scattered with indistinct verrucous denticles ..... *T. protumidus* sp. nov.

*Thoracochirus yingjiangensis* sp. nov. (Figs. 1-7)

Body length: 7.0-8.0 mm

Measurement. HL: 0.51 mm; HW: 1.21 mm; PL: 1.20 mm; PW: 1.99 mm; EL: 1.68 mm; EW: 1.95 mm.

Body subconvex. Head black. Pronotum and elytra red-brown. Abdomen black, with the terminal segment reddish. Femora, tibiae and tarsi red-yellow.

Head (Fig. 1) transverse, frontal impression broadly depressed, lateral lobe convex and furnished frontally with a distinctly triangular tooth; clypeus elongate, surface slightly crinkled, frontal part with two convex tubercles; the median sulcus deep, longer than the longitudinal diameter of eyes, vertex densely punctate and setiferous, except for the smooth lateral lobe, near posterior-lateral margin scattered with some small verrucous denticles.

Mandible protruding (Fig. 6). Mentum (Fig. 7) trapeziform and setaceous, with a curved groove, frontal margin medially tridentate, the median tooth more protruding than lateral teeth and basally depressed.

Antennae long, posteriorly reaching the middle of elytra, 1st segment extra elongate, about as long as 2nd-5th segments together, 2nd longer than wide, 3rd baculiform, about 2 times as long as 2nd, 4th-6th longer than wide, 7th quadrate, 8th-10th slightly transverse, 11th coniform, bluntly pointed, about 2 times as long as 10th. Each segments with dense long setae.

Pronotum strongly transverse, frontal margin distinctly bisinuate, lateral sides slightly convex outward, median longitudinal sulcus obsolete in middle, anterior part more distinctly depressed, posterior end especially expanded as a "T" impression, disc densely covered with setae and umbilicate punctures, close to lateral region evenly scattered with distinct long verrucous denticles. In marginal area, lateral line continuous, strongly bent upward at hind angle, and connecting with basal line of posterior constriction.

Protibiae crenulate externally, with 12-14 denticles.

Elytra slightly transverse, dorsal disc with dense

setae and rugous punctures, along lateral and frontal region sparsely scattered with distinct verrucous denticles.

Abdomen cylindrical, weakly broadened posteriorly, segments except 7th and 8th densely covered with setae, each segment with an anterior and a posterior rows of setae, with the anterior row sparser and the posterior one denser on lateral side and vanished in the middle.

Male. Aedeagus (Fig. 2) with median lobe slightly bulbous at base, distinctly curved behind basal orifice, posterior part slightly flat from lateral view, weakly sclerotized on the dorsal side and slightly contracted at apex; parameres short and rounded at apex, with the base protruding dorsally and connecting with each other. Ninth tergite (Fig. 5) sclerotized and left and right plates separated, each with 6 setae of various length. Tenth tergite almost membranous except for sclerotized apical part, posterior margin truncate, each side with 2 pairs of setae. Ninth sternite (Fig. 3) composed of two plates, apical plate sclerotized except for membranous apex, with two long setae and two pairs of short setae, basal plate less sclerotized, broadened in middle.

Female. Ninth sternite (Fig. 4) with hemisternite less sclerotized, second gonocoxite strongly sclerotized except for membranous apex, with one stout seta and two short setae.

Holotype, Yunnan, Yingjiang (24.6°N, 97.9°E), 1700 m, 17 May 1980, SONG Shi-Mei leg. Paratypes: 2, 1, same data as holotype.

Etymology. This specific epithet refers to the type locality "Yingjiang".

Distribution. China (Yunnan).

Remarks. The new species is similar to *T. verrucifer* Fauvel from India and Myanmar, but can be easily distinguished by distinctly smaller body size and less convex lateral lobe. This species is also similar to *T. decanus* Biswas from India, but differs from the latter in having a more transverse pronotum and a less tridentate mentum.

*Thoracochirus protumidus* sp. nov. (Figs. 8-14)

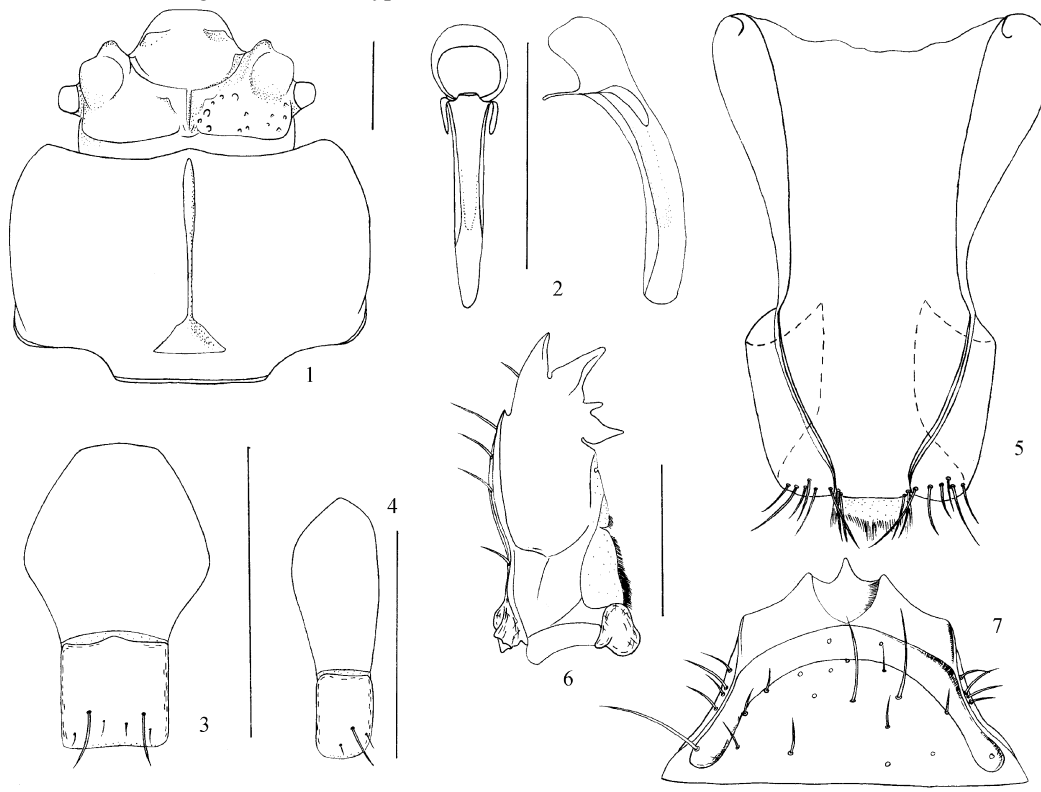
Body length: 8.0-9.0 mm.

Measurement. HL: 0.59 mm; HW: 1.21 mm; PL: 1.17 mm; PW: 1.87 mm; EL: 1.64 mm; EW: 1.83 mm.

Body subconvex. Mouthpart, clypeus and antennae reddish. Head, pronotum and elytra reddish black. Abdomen reddish black except for the yellowish

terminal segment. Femora and tibiae reddish, tarsi yellowish.

Head (Fig. 8) transverse, frontal impression broadly depressed, lateral lobe convex and frontally furnished with a small triangular tooth; clypeus elongate, surface smooth, frontal part with two small tubercles; the median sulcus shorter than the longitudinal diameter of eyes, divergent forward and backward; vertex densely punctate and setiferous except for the lateral lobe smooth.



Figs. 1-7. *Thoracochirus yingjiangensis* sp. nov. 1. Head and pronotum in dorsal view. 2. Aedeagus in dorsal and lateral view. 3. 9th sternite of male. 4. Left half of female 9th sternite. 5. Male 9th and 10th tergites. 6. Left mandible. 7. Mentum. Scale bars = 0.5 mm.

Mandible protruding (Fig. 13). Mentum (Fig. 14) trapeziform and setaceous with a curved groove, frontal margin medially tridentate, median tooth more protruding than lateral teeth and laterally depressed.

Antennae long, posteriorly reaching the middle of elytra, 1st segment elongate, as long as 2nd-4th segments together, 2nd longer than wide, 3rd baculiform, about 1.5 times as long as 2nd, 5th-7th longer than wide, 8th quadrate, 9th and 10th slightly transverse, 11th coniform, bluntly pointed, about 2 times as long as 10th. Each segment with dense long setae.

Pronotum transverse, frontal margin bisinuate, lateral sides parallel, median longitudinal sulcus narrow and evenly depressed, but the posterior end expanded as inverse "Y", disc densely covered with setae and umbilicate punctures, near lateral region scattered with indistinct verrucous denticles, but more distinct at the posterior angle. In marginal area, lateral line continuous, slightly, bent upward at hind angle, and connecting with basal line of posterior constriction.

necting with basal line of posterior constriction.

Protibiae crenulate externally, with 12 or 13 denticles.

Elytra almost quadrate, dorsal disc with dense setae and rugous punctures, lateral and frontal region sparsely scattered with indistinct verrucous denticles.

Abdomen cylindrical, weakly broadened posteriorly, segments except 7th and 8th densely covered with setae, each segment with an anterior and a posterior row of setae, with the anterior row sparser and the posterior one denser on lateral side and vanished in the middle.

Male. Aedeagus (Fig. 9) with median lobe slightly bulbous at base, slightly curved behind basal orifice, posterior part slightly flat from lateral view, very weakly sclerotized on the dorsal side, apical part slightly contracted, with a longitudinal carina; parameres long and rounded at apex, with basal part protruding dorsally and connecting with each other to form a triangular construction. Ninth tergite (Fig.

12) sclerotized, left and right plates separated, each with 7 setae of various length. Tenth tergite almost membranous except for sclerotized apical part, posterior margin truncate, each side with 2 pairs of setae. Ninth sternite (Fig. 10) composed of two plates, apical plate sclerotized with a membranous median line, with two long setae and two pairs of short setae, basal plate less sclerotized, broadened in middle.

Female. Ninth sternite (Fig. 11) with hemisternite less sclerotized, second gonocoxite strongly sclerotized except for slightly membranous apex, with one stout seta and two short setae.

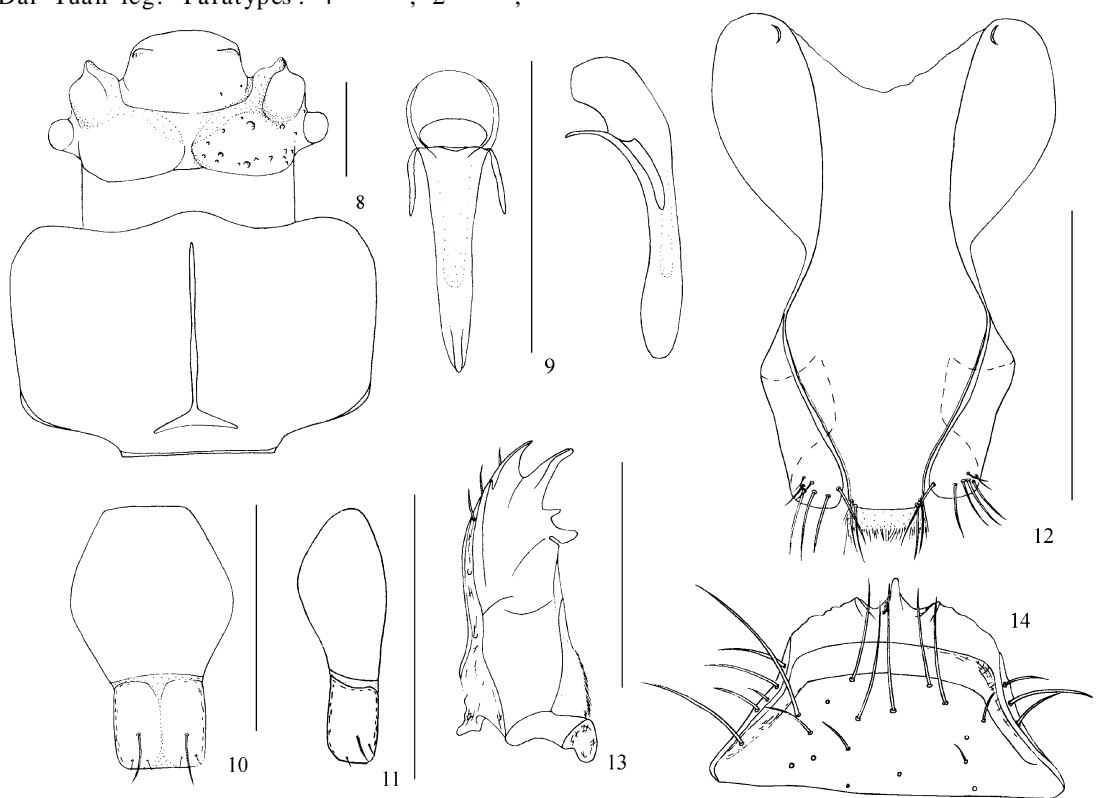
Holotype, Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Menglun (21.9°N, 101.2°E), 550 m, 8 Feb. 2004, WU Jie and BAI Dai-Yuan leg. Paratypes: 4, 2,

Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Menglun, 650 m, 21 Feb. 2004, WU Jie and ZHANG Jiao-Lin leg.; 1 Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Menglun, 690 m, 21 Feb. 2004, WU Jie leg.; 1, Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Mengla, 690m, 14 Feb. 2004, WU Jie leg.

Etymology. The species name is from Latin adjectives protumidus to indicate the triangular protruding lateral teeth on head.

Distribution. China (Yunnan).

Remarks. This species is similar to *T. decanus* from India, but could be distinguished by larger body size and less distinct verrucous denticles of pronotum and elytra. The mandible shape is also distinctly different.



Figs. 8-14. *Thoracochirus protumidus* sp. nov. 8. Head and pronotum in dorsal view. 9. Aedeagus in dorsal and lateral view. 10. Male 9th sternite. 11. Left half of female 9th sternite. 12. Male 9th and 10th tergites. 13. Left mandible. 14. Mentum. Scale bars = 0.5 mm.

#### *Thoracochirus arcuatus* sp. nov. (Figs. 15-21)

Body length: 5.0-5.5 mm.

Measurement. HL: 0.37 mm; HW: 0.78 mm; PL: 0.79 mm; PW: 1.23 mm; EL: 1.20 mm; EW: 1.32 mm.

Body subconvex. Head, pronotum and elytra black. Abdomen black, with the terminal segment red-brown. Antennae brown. Femora and tibiae red-brown, tarsi yellowish.

Head (Fig. 15) transverse, frontal impression broadly depressed, lateral lobe moderately convex and furnished with an auricular tooth, basally depressed and connected with lateral margin of clypeus; clypeus elongate, surface finely punctured, with two distinctly convex denticles, front part of clypeus evidently depressed; the median sulcus indistinct, weakly depressed and as long as the longitudinal length of eyes; vertex densely punctate and setiferous, except for the lateral lobe smooth.

Mandible protruding (Fig. 20). Mentum (Fig. 21) trapeziform and setaceous with a curved groove, frontal margin tridentate, median tooth and lateral teeth equally protruding.

Antennae long, posteriorly reaching the middle of elytra, 1st segment elongate, almost as long as 2nd-4th segments together, 2nd longer than wide, 3rd baculiform, about 1.5 times as long as 2nd, 4th and 5th longer than wide, 6th-10th transverse, 11th coniform, bluntly pointed, about 3 times as long as 10th. Each segment with dense long setae.

Pronotum transverse, frontal margin slightly bisinuate, lateral sides parallel, median longitudinal sulcus narrow, more distinctly depressed in front, and expanded at posterior end to form an inverse "Y", disc densely covered with setae and umbilicate punctures, close to lateral region scattered with indistinct verrucous denticles, and even more distinct at the posterior angle. In marginal area, lateral line continuous, slightly bent upward at hind angle, and connecting with basal line of posterior constriction.

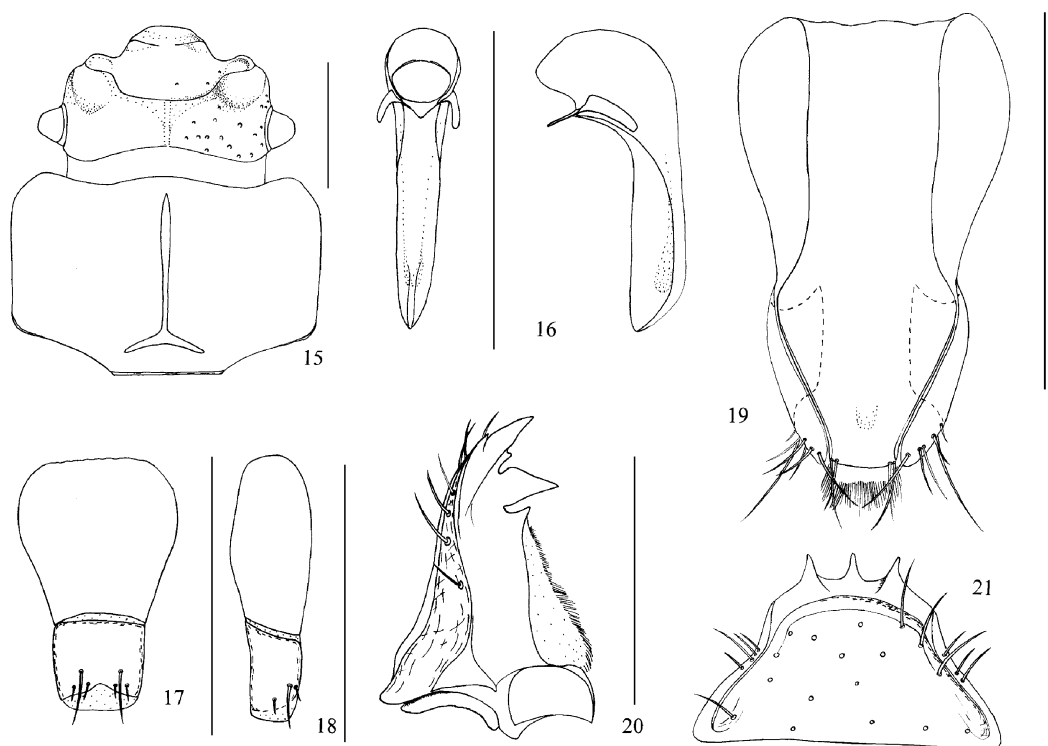
Protibiae crenulate externally, with 11-14 denticles.

Elytra almost quadrate, disc with dense setae and rugous punctures, along lateral and frontal region sparsely scattered with indistinct verrucous denticles.

Abdomen cylindrical, weakly broadened posteriorly, segments except 7th and 8th densely covered with setae, each segment with an anterior and a posterior rows of setae, both denser on lateral side and vanished in the middle.

Male. Aedeagus (Fig. 16) with median lobe slightly bulbous at base, slightly curved behind basal orifice, posterior part slightly flat from lateral view, weakly sclerotized on the dorsal side, apical part slightly contracted, with a longitudinal carina; parameres long and rounded at apex, with basal part protruding dorsally and connecting with each other to form a triangular construction. Ninth tergite (Fig. 19) sclerotized, left and right plates separated, each with 6 setae of various length. Tenth tergite almost membranous except for sclerotized apical part, posterior margin truncate, each side with 2 pairs of setae. Ninth sternite (Fig. 17) composed of two plates, apical plate sclerotized except for membranous apex, with two long setae and two pairs of short setae, basal plate less sclerotized, broadened basally.

Female. Ninth sternite (Fig. 18) with hemisternite less sclerotized, anterior margin not very round, second gonocoxite strongly sclerotized except for membranous apex, with one stout seta and two short setae.



Figs. 15-21. *Thoracochirus arcuatus* sp. nov. 15. Head and pronotum in dorsal view. 16. Aedeagus in dorsal and lateral view. 17. Male 9th sternite. 18. Left half of female 9th sternite. 19. Male 9th and 10th tergites. 20. Left mandible. 21. Mentum. Scale bars = 0.5 mm.

Holotype , Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Menglun (21.9°N, 101.2°E), 860 m, 11 Feb. 2004, WU Jie leg. Paratypes: 5 , 1 Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Menglun, 855 m, 8 Feb. 2004, WU Jie and BAI Dai-Yuan leg.

**Etymology.** The species name is from Latin adjectives *arcuatus* to indicate the auricular lateral teeth on head.

**Distribution:** China (Yunnan).

**Remarks.** The lateral teeth of head in this species basally connected with lateral margin of clypeus are distinctly different from other species in this genus.

*Thoracochirus variolosus* Fauvel, 1895 New record for mainland China (Figs. 22-28)

*Thoracochirus variolosus* Fauvel, 1895: 183; Heller, 1898: 8; Bernhauer, 1903: 156; Bernhauer and Schubert, 1910: 19; Bernhauer, 1922: 221; Bernhauer, 1926: 255; Wendeler, 1928: 119; Cameron, 1930: 119; Scheerpeltz, 1933: 1009; Herman, 2001: 1144.

Synonym: *Thoracochirus forsteri* Bernhauer, 1903: 156; Bernhauer and Schubert, 1910: 18; Bernhauer, 1926: 255; Cameron, 1928: 95; Scheerpeltz, 1933: 1009.

*Thoracochirus intermedius* Bernhauer, 1926: 255; Wendeler, 1928: 119; Scheerpeltz, 1933: 1009; Herman, 2001: 1144.

*Thoracochirus sublaevicollis* Bernhauer, 1926: 255; Wendeler, 1928: 119; Scheerpeltz, 1933: 1009; Herman, 2001: 1144.

Body length: 6.0-7.0 mm.

Measurement. HL: 0.47 mm; HW: 0.86 mm; PL: 0.90 mm; PW: 1.44 mm; EL: 1.40 mm; EW: 1.52 mm.

Body subconvex. Head, pronotum and elytra black. Abdomen black, with the terminal segment dark-red. Antennae dark-red. Femora and tibiae dark-red, tarsi yellowish.

Head (Fig. 22) transverse, frontal impression broadly depressed, lateral lobe moderately convex, not furnished with a tooth, just weakly protruding along frontal margin; clypeus elongate, surface crinkled, frontally rounded; the median sulcus indistinct, shorter than the longitudinal length of eyes; vertex densely punctate and setiferous except for the lateral lobe smooth.

Mandible protruding (Fig. 27) Mentum (Fig. 28) trapeziform and setaceous with a curved groove, frontal margin tridentate, median tooth protruding and longer than lateral tooth.

Antennae long, posteriorly reaching the middle of elytra, 1st segment elongate, almost as long as 2nd-4th segments together, 2nd longer than wide, 3rd baculi-

form, about 1.5 times as long as 2nd, 4th-9th longer than wide, 10th quadrate, 11th coniform, bluntly pointed, about 2 times as long as 10th. Each segments with dense long setae.

Pronotum transverse, frontal margin distinct bisinuate, lateral sides parallel, median longitudinal sulcus narrow, more distinctly depressed in front and expanded at posterior end to form an inverse "Y", disc densely covered with setae and umbilicate punctures, close to lateral region scattered with long verrucous denticles. In marginal area, lateral line continuous, slightly bent upward at hind angle, and connecting with basal line of posterior constriction.

Protibiae crenulate externally, with 13-15 denticles.

Elytra almost quadrate, dorsal disc with dense setae and rugous punctures, along lateral and frontal region sparsely scattered with distinct verrucous denticles.

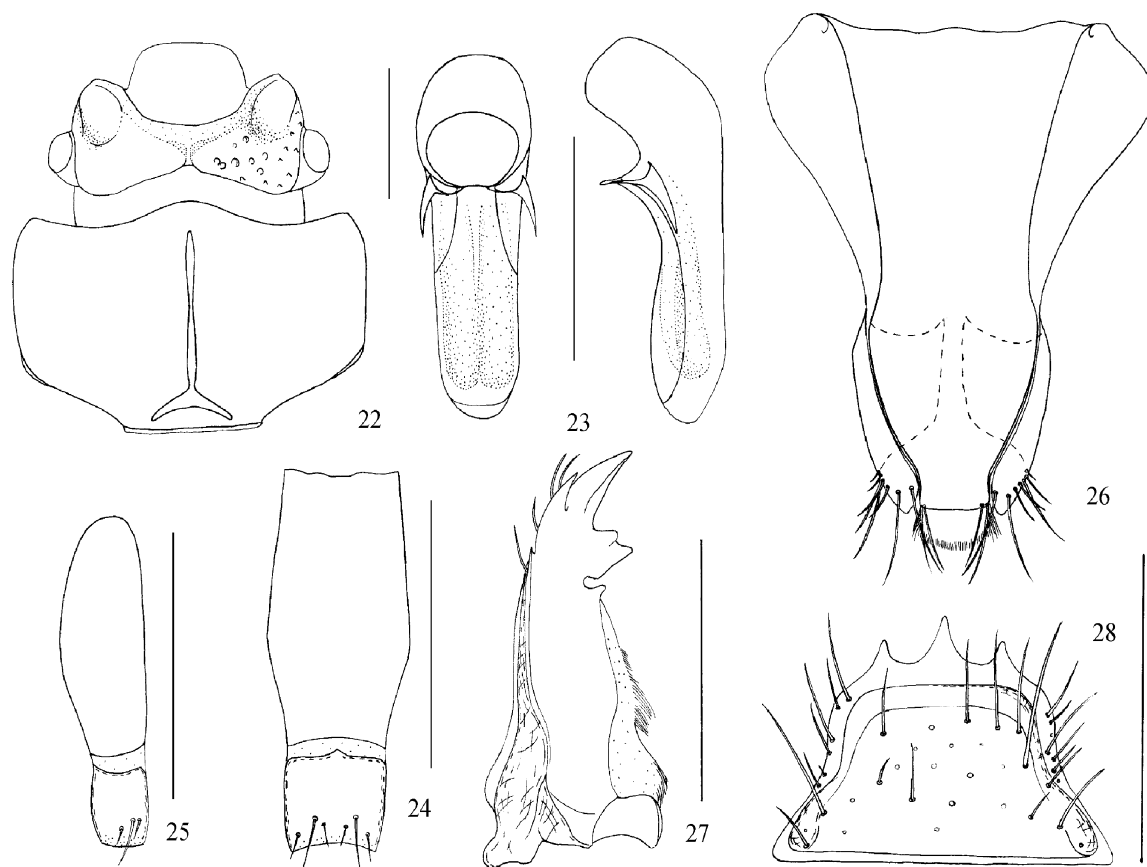
Abdomen cylindrical, weakly broadened posteriorly, segments except 7th and 8th densely covered with setae, each segment with an anterior and a posterior rows of setae, with the anterior row sparser and the posterior one denser on lateral side and vanished in the middle.

Male. Aedeagus (Fig. 23) with median lobe slightly bulbous at base, curved behind basal orifice, posterior part baculiform, weakly sclerotized on the dorsal side and rounded at apex; parameres short and pointed, with basal part protruding dorsally and connecting with each other. Ninth tergite (Fig. 26) sclerotized and left and right plates separated, each with 7 or 8 setae of various length. Tenth tergite almost membranous except for sclerotized apical part and posterior margin truncate, each side with 2 pairs of setae. Ninth sternite (Fig. 24) composed of two plates, apical plate sclerotized except for membranous apex, with two long setae and two pairs of short setae, basal plate less sclerotized, broadened in the middle.

Female. Ninth sternite (Fig. 25) with hemisternite less sclerotized, second gonocoxite strongly sclerotized except for membranous apex, with one stout seta and two short setae.

Materials examined. 3 , 3 Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Menglun, 810 m, 21 Feb. 2004, WU Jie and ZHANG Jiao-Lin leg.

**Distribution.** China (Yunnan, Taiwan); Myanmar, Indonesia, Borneo, Philippines.



Figs. 22-28. *Thoracochirus variolosus*. 22. Head and pronotum in dorsal view. 23. Aedeagus in dorsal and lateral view. 24. Male 9th sternite. 25. Left half of female 9th sternite. 26. Male 9th and 10th tergites. 27. Left mandible. 28. Mentum. Scale bars = 0.5 mm.

**Acknowledgement** We are grateful to Mr. YANG Song-Hai and other colleagues of Xishuangbanna Nature Reserve, Yunnan Province, for their kindly assistance during our field investigations.

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## 中国疣隐翅虫属(鞘翅目, 隐翅虫科, 筒隐翅虫亚科) 分类研究

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**摘 要** 疣隐翅虫属 *Thoracochirus* 种类多见于腐木树皮下, 是重要的腐木甲虫。在本研究之前, 该属只有两个种在中国台湾有记录: 长疣隐翅虫 *Thoracochirus variolosus* Fauvel, 1895 和台湾疣隐翅虫 *T. formosae* Cameron, 1940。记述了云南的 3 新种: 盈江疣隐翅虫 *T. yingjiangensis* sp. nov., 尖

突疣隐翅虫 *T. protumidus* sp. nov., 耳突疣隐翅虫 *T. arcuatus* sp. nov. 及长疣隐翅虫 *T. variolosus* 大陆新纪录。文中提供了该 4 个种的检索表。所有标本(包括所有模式标本)保存在中国科学院动物研究所。

**关键词** 鞘翅目, 隐翅虫科, 疣隐翅虫属, 新种.

**中图分类号** Q969.484.4

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